

Serial No.: 09/744,637
Filed: March 21, 2001
Group Art Unit: 1774

REMARKS

1. This is in response to the Office Action mailed 8/29/02. Claims 1-12 and 19 remain pending in this application.
2. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant has cancelled claims 13-18 and 20-21 without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to file these claims as part of one or more divisional applications.
3. Applicant has amended the specification by inserting an abstract, which is the same as the abstract that was in the parent PCT application.
4. Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.
 - a. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the transfer paper comprises (1) a base paper and (2) a release or barrier layer on at least the side of the base paper to be printed. Support for the claim can be found on page 5, lines 13-27; page 8, lines 17-19; page 10, lines 11-13; and elsewhere in the application.
 - b. Because of the amendment of claim 1, it now provides antecedent basis for "wire side" in claim 2.

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5. Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1-12 and 19 under 35 USC 103.

Both Malhotra et al. and Kohno et al. relate to recording paper (see e.g. Malhotra et al. column 1, lines 45-47, and Kohno et al., title, abstract, claim 1), whereas the present invention is directed to transfer paper. Transfer paper is altogether different from recording paper, in particular because recording paper requires that the ink is absorbed in the paper and should not be given off, whereas in transfer paper the dye should be transferable to the object to be printed.

Both references only teach how absorbance properties are improved and are absolutely silent regarding transfer properties.

See for instance Malhotra et al. column 7, lines 5-12, where it teaches "excellent toner fix". See also Kohno et al. column 3, lines 1-8, where it is stated that an objective of that patent is to "stabilize ink absorptivity". Transfer printing is not even mentioned or hinted at in these references.


It thus follows that Malhotra et al. and Kohno et al., whether taken alone or in combination, do not suggest the subject matter of the present invention.

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The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. A transfer paper suitable for inkjet printing, [provided, at least on the side to be printed, with] comprising:

(a) a base paper having a wire side and a felt side, and

(b) a release or barrier layer at least on the side of said base paper to be printed, wherein [the] said release or barrier layer has a porosity of at most 100 ml/min.